Build a Labor Party Now!

THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

Vol. XVIII - No. 32 | 267 | NEW YORK, N. Y., MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 1954 | PRICE: 10 CENTS

THE BIGGEST STEAL IN ALL HISTORY

(See Page 2)

Detroit Dodge Local Strikes Over Speedup

DETROIT, Aug. 1 — Dodge Local 3 of the CIO United Auto Workers, whose 10,000 members went out on strike on July 16 and stayed out on strike for a full week until ordered back to work by the International, has voted overwhelmingly to authorize a new strike if their grievances are not adjusted, it was learned yesterday.

Coming only eight days after their strike was called off by orders from above, this strike vote testifies to the Dodge workers' determination to defend their jobs and working conditions by militant action. This time the International, sensing the workers' angry mood, offered no objections to Local 3's strike authorization, and even expressed support for it.

The Dodge strike, which idled 45,000 Chrysler workers and halted all auto production in the Chrysler empire for a week, began with a walkout at Dodge Main. It was provoked by management efforts to introduce more speedup.

HOW IT BEGAN

Two workers in the trim department were disciplined for failing to keep up with new production standards and holding up the assembly line. Other workers in the department were so incensed by this high-handed action that they walked off the job for the rest of the day.

The next day the company disciplined four more workers and fired two for the same reason. This time the trim department was joined by other departments. Holding a special meeting at Local 3 hall, they unanimously decided to take immediate strike action. The local's executive board unanimously concurred and endorsed the membership's action. Monday morning pickets were at the plant gates and the strike was 100% effective.

The Chrysler Corporation was crippled at a time when it is most anxious to push ahead with its new 1955 models. A company spokesman expressed concern that the strike would interfere with model changeover, scheduled to begin in August. The strike had tied up all work on dies and parts for the new 1955 model and the Plymouth V-8 motor. Chrysler felt that its competitive position with Ford and General Motors was threatened, and therefore was under considerable pressure to reach an early settlement with the strikers.

But the company never held one meeting with the strikers, assigning the job of getting them back to work to the International UAW officers. Here is how that job was carried out:

A CHRONICLE

Friday, July 16: Art Hughes, an International representative, met with the local executive board and plant committeemen. He insisted that a strike authorization voted by the local last October was no longer legal. He threatened that the union would be sued under the Taft-Hartley Law. He warned of the certain prospect of mass firings — assuming, of course, that the strike would fail. He ended by demanding that

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Got 'Windfall'

Norman K. Winston, New York builder, tells Senate banking committee he and a handful of relatives harvested a "windfall" of $613,000 on seven Queens, N. Y., apartment houses financed with FHA-backed mortages. Some builders got 10,000% profits on FHA deals. See editorial on Page 2.

Michigan SWP Names Lovell to Run for Governor

By Alfred Hansted

DETROIT, Aug. 2 — **The socialist answer to unemployment will be heard in Michigan in the fall election campaign. Candidates of the Socialist Workers Party on the Michigan ballot are Frank Lovell for Governor, Rita Shaw for U.S. Senator and Robert Himmel for U.S. Representative.**

A "Meet Your Candidates" rally will be held for them Sat., Aug. 14, 8 P.M. at 3000 Grand River in Detroit.

Unlike the capitalist candidates of the millionaire Williams stripe, supported by the Reuther bureaucracy, Frank Lovell is a real workers' candidate, veteran of a quarter century of union struggles. Lovell, schooled in the San Francisco General Strike of 1934 which resulted in the solid waterfront unions of the West Coast and gave impetus to the rise of the CIO, was an international organizer for the Sailors Union of the Pacific for a number of years.

Lovell helped organize the Great Lakes seamen in Detroit and returned to the ranks to participate in the fight against the no-strike pledge. He later became editor of the Defender, a paper upholding the democratic rights of the rank and file against the bureaucratization of the unions. He is now Michigan State Chairman of the Socialist Workers Party.

When he ran for Mayor of Detroit in 1953, Lovell warned that layoffs and shut downs were coming. Today he said:

"Today 170,000 people are walking the streets of Detroit looking for jobs. Murray Body and Hudson are down, others are going. Unemployment compensation has run out for many. Thousands are on relief. The spectacle of a labor movement as large as the one in Michigan begging politicians for comfort, is tragic.

"These capitalist politicians cannot maintain full employment without war, and that goes for Gov. Williams too. We don't expect the manufacturers' associations to support our strikes. We shouldn't expect capitalist politicians to solve workers' problems. We need union men in government. It's high time labor organized its own political party which can unite the working people, farmers and professional people, and put a government in power which represents the majority."

Senators Again Duck Action On Curbing Fascist M'Carthy

Guatemala Dictators

Col. Armas (left), and Col. Monzon, puppets of the U.S. State Dept. and United Fruit Co. in Guatemala. The recently installed dictators met with resistance to their purge of Army forces when the Aurora Air Base rebelled Aug. 2. Armas agreed to a demand to disband his personal "Liberation Army," then called the seven officers heading the rebellion to the palace for "talks." On arrival they were placed under arrest, and charged with killing 25 persons, wounding 70 others and attempting to restore the Arbenz government.

RACISTS BOMB HOMES OF NEGRO, UNION MAN

On Friday evening, July 23, the home of Allen Williams, representative of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen, AFL, was bombed at Center, Tex. Williams' automobile was also demolished and four motel cabins were destroyed through fire.

The union's representatives had been threatened before the bombing. Members of the union were on strike in Center. The union says its recent expose of the processing of diseased poultry had also aroused antagonism locally.

Two days later, at two in the morning, a stick of dynamite was hurled into the front room of Moses Parrish at 1123 E. 7th St., Pueblo, Col. His sister, Mrs. Marian Hawkins, a nurse's aide in Los Angeles, who was visiting at the time, was hurled to the floor from her bed.

The force of the blast crashed the picture window just above her bed. An iron patio chair hit her on the back of the head. Her ten year old daughter, Francine, who was lying on a pallet on the floor, was cut above the eye and on her arms and legs.

Parrish, a steel mill machinist, is a Negro. His home is in the heart of a solid white neighborhood.

Such stories are not considered "news" by the big newspapers and magazines. The Texas atrocity is taken from a press release by the union involved. The Colorado attack was reported in a Los Angeles Negro weekly.

Headlines screamed and commentators grew hoarse with indignation last March when Puerto Rican nationalists staged a terrorist demonstration in the House of Representatives. But the press, radio and TV rarely find the time or space to even report the acts of terrorism against Negroes and the labor movement that are committed by the fascist, racist and anti-labor forces in this country.

How many big newspapers, for example, report the frequent acts of bomb-terrorism that are perpetrated against Negro families living at the Trumbull Park housing project in Chicago?

Bomb-terrorism, a favorite device of those who want to work in the dark, is a growing menace. It is necessary to put the spotlight of publicity on these atrocities, to trace the production and sale of the bombs, and to punish both the terrorists and the racist and fascist groups who inspire and direct them.

AFL Leader Defends 5th Amendment

The Fifth Amendment, now under attack from Attorney General Brownell's so-called "immunity" bill, is vigorously defended by the AFL leader, A.J. Hayes, president of the International Association of Machinists, in the August issue of the Machinists Monthly Journal.

Most attacks on the Fifth Amendment center around the clause stating that a person shall not "be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself." But to abandon this clause, Hayes warns, would mean to "revert to the old practice, still used by Communist and Fascist dictators, of extracting confessions by physical and mental torture. Indeed, the Fifth Amendment is an expression of one of the basic concepts of freedom which distinguishes our form of government from Communism and Fascism."

"THE END RESULT"

Then, taking up Brownell's arguments without mentioning him by name, Hayes adds:

"To sacrifice this guarantee in the belief or on the pretext that its elimination is necessary in order to fight Communism would be a tragic fallacy and a dangerous precedent. For if this fundamental guarantee of individual rights may be ripped away, why not other rights as well? The end result of such a process would be less and less freedom for the men and women who make up the country, and more and more power concentrated in the hands of government, or select groups of persons in government. And thus we would endanger the very foundation of the form of government we seek to protect.

"It is nonsense to defend an abrogation of the Fifth Amendment for witnesses appearing before congressional committees on the grounds that such committees do not have the power to try, convict or punish in the sense a court does. They do not have such power, but they do have, through publicity and influence, the power to impair a man's life, restrict his liberty and deprive him of the honor which is more sacred than property.

"To make an outcast of a man, to strip him of his chances for a livelihood, to impugn his loyalty — this is fully as serious as depriving him of life, liberty and property. And, in congressional hearings, the whole procedure is accomplished without due process of law."

(See Page 2 for article on the "immunity" bill.)

In Atom Debate

Sen. Albert Gore (D, Tenn.), one of the opposition leaders in the 13-day Senate debate on Administration's bill to open way for private corporations to grab atomic industry. With minor amendments, the bill passed 57-28. See article, Page 2.

Both Parties Sidetrack Censure; Set Up Still Another "Probe" Body

By John F. Petrone

AUG. 4 — McCarthy scored another victory on Aug. 2 when the U.S. Senate refused to vote on the Flanders "censure" resolution and decided instead to set up still another committee to "investigate" the fascist Senator.

The motion, introduced by GOP majority leader Knowland, was adopted by 75 to 12. It was supported by every McCarthyite in the Senate with the exception of McCarthy, who did not bother to vote. It was supported by the overwhelming majority of members of both capitalist parties, who are mortally afraid of having to vote on any disciplinary resolution against McCarthy and are grateful for any pretext to delay or prevent such voting.

The new "investigating" committee, consisting of three Republicans and three Democrats, is supposed to bring back a report after considering the Flanders resolution and the Fulbright and Morse amendments, and after taking new testimony. It is also supposed to report back before the present session of Congress ends.

Whether that will actually happen is highly doubtful. It will be child's play for McCarthy to drag out the new "investigation" long beyond the middle of August, when the Senate expects to adjourn or recess until the fall. And once the Senate has recessed, the chances of its reconvening in the middle of a hot Congressional campaign to act on the touchy McCarthy issue will be quite dim.

Anyhow, as James Reston said in the Aug. 3 N. Y. Times: "If the bipartisan committee, to which the censure motion has been referred, does force the Senate to make a decision before adjournment, the chances still are that it will choose to vote for McCarthy rather than against him."

DIRKSEN'S THREAT

The knowledge of this relationship of forces accounts for the fantastic character of the three-day debate on the Flanders resolution: The target of most of the attacks was not McCarthy, but his critics, who found themselves not only in a minority but on the defensive most of the time.

The tone of the debate was set in the opening day's speech by Dirksen, the oily McCarthyite from Illinois. Certain that he had a majority on his side, and knowing how vulnerable the Democrats feel about charges of "communist coddling," Dirksen attributed all moves against McCarthy to the Communist Party. Calling Americans for Democratic Action an "affiliated organization" of the CP, he said Flanders, his Senate collaborators, the ADA and the CIO were all in the "same bed" with the Communist Party.

The clear threat in his speech was that anyone who voted against McCarthy would get a dose of the same redbaiting medicine. But in the subsequent discussion no one arose with any effective answer to this smear.

McCarthy himself, though still fighting an essentially defensive battle, also carried the attack to his enemies. Denouncing the charges against him as "smears and innuendoes," he said he was "very happy" about the proposed new investigation. (As his supporter David Lawrence explained in his syndicated column on Aug. 4, "It will presumably give him a larger audience than before" — an audience to whom McCarthy can address more fascist propaganda.)

McCarthy said he would testify before the new committee, but wanted the right to "cross-examine" the Senators who had made charges against him so that they "will either indict themselves for perjury or they will prove what consummate liars they are."

THE SAME PATTERN

The liberals howled that this was a threat to convert the new investigation into a probe of McCarthy's critics, just as happened in the Army hearings. And it's true. The new investigation will follow the same pattern as the previous investigations, and, as Fulbright put it, there isn't "the slightest chance of changing the pattern." Not in a Senate made up of politicians who are afraid to tangle with McCarthy.

Monroney warned that the members of the new committee will be accused by McCarthy of

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MISS. NEGROES OPPOSE DODGE ON SCHOOL ISSUE

Good news from Mississippi, the most backward and Jim Crow state in the union: The Negro people there have served notice that they will not "support any attempt to dodge the U.S. Supreme Court decision outlawing public school segregation." (AP dispatch from Jackson, Miss., July 31.)

Such a declaration is routine in the North, and even in parts of the South. But it takes real courage in Mississippi. Here's how it happened:

The white supremacist rulers of the South are working on several schemes for evading the U.S. Supreme Court decision. One of their schemes, already approved by the politicians in South Carolina and Georgia, is to abolish the public school system and replace it with private schools as a means of maintaining segregation.

Another scheme is "segregation by consent" — that is, putting murderous pressure on the Negroes and getting them to announce publicly that they want segregated schools.

Before enacting legislation authorizing the abolition of the public schools, the Mississippi authorities decided to explore the "consent" angle. Terrorism of Negroes in Mississippi being unsurpassed by any other state, they figured it would be relatively easy to round up some Negroes who would "consent" to be stooges for their Jim Crow maneuvers.

The state's Legal Education Advisory Committee was given the assignment of getting Negro compliance. On July 30 it met with 90 Negroes. Needless to say, the more militant sections of the Negro community were not invited or welcome. It was made plain to the 90 Negroes that they would be in for all kinds of trouble — legal and economic — if they did not play ball.

NO CONSENT

To the astonishment and anger of the LEAC, a majority of the 90 Negroes said, "No." They refused to collaborate in perpetuating Jim Crow schools.

The LEAC then decided that "segregation by consent" will not work in Mississippi, and voted to approve a proposed constitutional amendment authorizing the ending of the public school system if necessary. Gov. Hugh White said the Mississippi legislature would be called into special session Sept. 7 to act on the amendment.

The heroic action of the Mississippi Negroes is a sign of the times. They may not yet be able to end the Jim Crow system, but they are willing to risk severe reprisals rather than help maintain it. In the long run that spirit spells the doom of Jim Crow.

Is It True that Economic Decline Is "Beaten"?

By Joseph Keller

Government economists claim the economic decline is over. Early in July, presidential economic adviser Dr. Gabriel Hauge told the state governors' conference that "the retreat, the settling out, the readjustment, the recession—call it whatever you want—is over . . . now there is every chance that we can go forward."

But don't put much stock in the statistics that "experts" like Hauge are using to diagnose the health of the economy. The capitalist government regulates statistics the way the patient tried to fool the doctors. When he had a fever, he stuck the thermometer in a glass of cold water. When his temperature dropped below 98.6 degrees, he put the thermometer against the hot water bottle. Even the post-mortem failed to reveal to the doctors how he had maintained such a "normal" temperature to the very end.

Dr. Arthur F. Burns, Eisenhower's chief economic advisor, ruefully confessed recently that the government's method of taking the country's economic temperature is not altogether reliable. **Among other important examples, he said that "statistical information about the construction industry is weak." On employment, he said the President's Council of Economic Advisers "has felt keenly the need for more dependable information."**

These observations on government statistics are by way of a necessary preliminary to analyzing the direction in which American economy is traveling at this time.

SIGNIFICANT SYMPTOMS

Fortunately, we don't need to depend on the government's temperature chart. If we examine the economy for certain specific symptoms—the conditions of pulse, heart and respiration, so to speak — we can get a far more accurate idea of its state of health. When we examine some of its vital organs — the key industries, for instance — the economy doesn't look in very good shape.

Take the auto industry. A brief June pick-up in output has turned once more into a decline. Ward's Automotive Reports estimated July sales of new cars fell more than 15% below June. The same authoritative source reported on Aug. 3 that third-quarter auto output will be slashed "the sharpest since the prewar 1938-41 period because of the industry's return this year to September-October changeovers."

Reporting in the Aug. 1 N.Y. Times Foster Hailey says that rising auto sales in June brought smiles in Detroit "as wide as Jefferson Avenue," especially in Republican headquarters. But "the gloom today is almost as thick as the January fog and smog over the icebound Detroit River."

Less picturesque but more **specific is the Aug. 3 Wall Street Journal report. "By fall, the number of jobless in the industry likely will mount to the highest point since 1946, with the impact being felt at auto assembly plants and by suppliers scattered from coast to coast." The Journal reports "output scheduled to drop sharply from now until autumn."**

Is this just a "normal" changeover? According to the Journal, General Motor's Chevrolet "is slated for its longest model changeover period since the end of World War II." A check of over half the Chevrolet plants "hints at shutdowns lasting from two to eight weeks," whereas in other years "Chevvy has managed its model changeover in about ten days."

About 38% of Chrysler's 107,000 workers will be laid off for at least a month starting the middle of August. Packard will lay off half its employes early in September for "only" two months. Yet the Michigan Employment Security Commission notes that until this year postwar auto "model changes have hardly made a ripple. . . With a total of not more than 10,000 off in any single week."

What about steel, the foundation industry of modern mass production? Steel Magazine on July 26 found the industry's outlook bleak as "reflected in reported plans to shorten the Great Lakes ore shipping season by at least a month with stocks at lower lake docks and furnaces now the largest in 16 years."

The American Iron and Steel Institute on August 2 reported scheduled steel operations at 64.8% of capacity for the week ending Aug. 6. This was headlined as a "Rise in Steel Production" in some papers. The operating rate the week before was —64.2%.

But what the Administration always falls back on to prove its claim that the downturn is "beaten," as Hauge said, is the construction industry. Although the statistics in this field are "weak," as Burns admitted, nevertheless they are supposed to be strong enough to prop up the "everything's hunkydory" propaganda of the government.

However, even here "all that glitters is not gold." Lewis L. Schellbach, of Standard and Poor's Corp., writing in the July 17 N.Y. World-Telegram, warned that "too much importance has been attached to the slight increase in industrial production since April. . . Examination of basic considerations, however, suggests . . . possible resumption of the downtrend later in the year."

One of the "basic considerations" Schellbach cites is precisely construction. He notes that building permits issued in May, declined for the second straight month and were 7% below the May, 1953, total. He likewise observes the low level of steel output. "These straws in the wind point to reduced building activity later in the year."

How Stalinists Prop M'Carthyism

By Harry Ring

In a series of five articles entitled "Electoral Outlook in New York," the Stalinist paper, the Daily Worker offers "tactical" advice to "progressive workers, those that recognize the two major parties as instruments of monopoly capital and generally support independent political action by Labor and its allies."

The theme of the articles, which are signed by Max Gordon, is that "the central aim of this campaign must be to aid in uniting the labor movement and its allies to defeat Republican and Farleyite reaction."

According to Gordon, "Plainly this cannot be done through the American Labor Party. It can be achieved only through a struggle within the Democratic Party for a candidate and a program which will win the allegiance of the working class and its allies." Such a candidate, says this Stalinist hack, is Franklin Roosevelt, Jr., a strong contender for the Democratic nomination for Governor.

Gordon's primary target is the view among rank and file Stalinists and in the ALP that "if America is to be saved from war, fascism and depression, the politicians of both major parties 'must be opposed with every resource at our command' in the coming state elections."

This view was voiced in a recent letter to the National Guardian by Clifford T. McAvoy, the ALP's 1953 New York Mayoralty candidate; and, since the resignation of Marcantonio, the principal opponent within the ALP of the Stalinist pro-Democratic party orientation.

Gordon also argues, in more friendly fashion, with those who, to assure a Democratic victory, "would prefer the ALP not name a candidate at all." Pointing out that "it will take a rough struggle to get as much as 60,000 votes" for the ALP, the writer assures the nervous elements that "it is the height of improbability that the margin between the two major parties' nominees will be anywhere near as close as that."

FEARFUL LESSONS OF EUROPEAN FASCISM

The Stalinists have correctly pointed out that one of the fundamental issues in the 1954 elections is the struggle against McCarthyism. And yet they propose — to those foolish or misguided enough to take their advice — that this crucial struggle be "waged" through the Democratic Party, the very party responsible for launching the witch hunt out of which McCarthyite fascism was born.

The fearful lessons learned in the struggle against European fascism should be sufficient to rule out such a disastrous course as the Stalinists propose. Hitler came to power largely because the German labor leaders insisted that the way to stop him was to support the "lesser evil" — the German counterpart of the Democratic Party.

Assume that the Stalinists are ignorant of — or don't want to remember — how this policy led to the defeat of the German workers. Are they also ignorant of the present role of the Democratic Party in helping the growth of McCarthyism?

The events of the past several months alone have been sufficient to demonstrate that the "anti-McCarthy wing" of the Democratic Party is capable only of folding up when confronted with a serious fight with McCarthy. Like their German brothers, the Democrats help pave the road for the victory of the budding fascist movement.

'SILENT' ON McCARTHYISM

Perhaps Roosevelt the Third is an exception to this? Not according to the Daily Worker. Interested as they are in presenting him in the best possible light, they nevertheless feel compelled to admit, "he has attacked McCarthyism on a number of occasions, and likened him to Hitler . . . but he has been silent on various aspects of McCarthyism, such as the Smith Act persecutions, the current Brownell bills," etc.

The Daily Worker doesn't attempt to explain why Roosevelt is "silent on various aspects of McCarthyism," but unwittingly they give the answer. While attempting to demonstrate that he "has gone ahead of most politicians in response to public pressure for peace," they are also forced to concede that "he has embraced the basic assumptions of American imperialism regarding the 'cold war' . . . the need for an arms build-up . . ." etc.

In other words, Roosevelt supports the imperialist war drive and the accompanying witch hunt. He is therefore consistent when he remains "silent on various aspects of McCarthyism." On what possible basis then can he be expected to lead a struggle to stop McCarthyism?

It was not blindness to these elementary political facts that caused the Stalinists to wander into the camp of the witch-hunting, war-mongering Democratic Party. It was cold calculation, the cold calculation of the Malenkov regime.

SELL OUT SOCIALISM

The Stalinist course is dictated primarily by the diplomatic needs of the counter-revolutionary Kremlin clique; not by the needs of the American workers. The Kremlin looks at Roosevelt much as it looked at Wallace — he favors "peaceful co-existence," therefore his platform coincides with Moscow's passing diplomatic needs, and therefore he must be supported no matter how gravely the struggle for socialism, which alone can assure enduring peace, is injured.

It seems that in a recent speech Roosevelt "called for 'reassessment' of U.S. policy towards the Soviet Union, criticized advocates of preventive war, and asked for a policy of co-existence and peaceful competition with the USSR."

In short, like Churchill, he recognizes that world imperialism needs a breather in its preparations for war, and is ready to consider the idea of a temporary "deal" with the Soviet Union. For the Stalinists that's enough reason to support him. Never mind the fact that it weakens the struggle against McCarthyite fascism and can even make possible the catastrophe of opening the road to the White House for the Wisconsin demagogue.

It is true that New York workers, like the workers elsewhere in the country, in their majority vote for the Democratic Party. They do so not out of any particular love for the Democrats, but because they have not yet been able to cut through the opposition of the union officialdom to creation of an independent Labor Party.

Now the Stalinists have stepped in as a new prop for the reactionary politics of the labor officials. By that token they also constitute a prop to McCarthyism.

The Greatest Steal in All History

By Art Preis

The greatest steal in history is under way. Through the atomic energy bill recently adopted by the Senate, America's private monopolies are moving to grab the government-owned atomic energy industry, built at a public cost of more than $12 billion.

The bill provides that atomic energy processes and inventions will ultimately come under private patents. According to Leland Olds, for five years chairman of the Federal Power Commission, "a single patent or group of patents in the atomic-energy field could control an energy resource estimated to be twenty times greater than all the coal, oil, and natural-gas reserves of the entire world." (The Nation, July 17, 1954.)

In short, the American people are being robbed on a scale not even conceivable before the atomic era.

By piecing together bits of information, which have leaked out from time to time, it is possible to give a fairly clear picture of how the atomic energy grab has been planned and engineered.

We find a sordid pattern of collusion between big Business corporations and government officials, including members of the Atomic Energy Commission itself. These latter have been working hand-in-glove with the giant monopolies in paving the way for Operation Atomic Hijack.

DENIED PEACEFUL USE

For a number of years after the 1945 atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, it was the contention of the American rulers that atomic energy had only destructive potentialities, at least for the foreseeable future. They circulated this lie because they wanted to concentrate exclusively on atomic military production, since they had an insufficient supply of nuclear materials for their grandiose atomic war program.

As for the monopolists, they were not anxious to see the peacetime development of atomic power that might displace conventional power sources, in which the capitalists have a large investment, or undermine the high prices and high profits of electrical power.

SHARP CHANGE OF VIEW

Within the past year or so, there has been a sharp alteration in the expressed views of the capitalists and their government agents. This was stated in the March 1954 report of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy's Subcommittee on Research and Development. It said:

"Economic evaluation by the (Atomic Energy) Commission and its contractors show that the probability of producing electricity from nuclear fuel at a cost competitive with electricity from coal, oil or gas is good. . . This does not mean that such low-cost nuclear power will be obtained from the very first plants which might be built, but that it may well come from succeeding plants which . . . it should be possible to construct and operate more economically."

A REVEALING REPORT

Awareness of the new profits potential in the field of atomic energy had been expressed even earlier in a report prepared primarily for the information of investors in privately owned utilities corporations. This specially-prepared study was issued on Oct. 24, 1953, by Bozell & Jacobs, Inc., public relations counsel for the utilities interests. The report coincided with announcement by the Atomic Energy Commission (EC) that it was authorizing Westinghouse Electric Corp. to build the first, full-scale atomic power plant for peacetime purposes.

Contrary to the propaganda that profitable commercial nuclear power is "at least decades off, if . . . possible at all," the Bozell & Jacobs report—prepared at the direction of 81 electric utilities companies—stressed that such power "is fast developing." In fact, "No other energy . . . ever has been developed so rapidly" and "much is being compressed into a few years."

The study concluded that it was necessary to revise the 1946 Atomic Energy Act, which confined control of atomic energy to the government. **The utilities' report discovered that "the field now needs the energizing influence of private enterprise to search out and develop all the infinite commercial possibilities of this vast energy source."**

But something stood in the way: "the most controversial problem to be resolved is patents." That "most controversial problem"—namely, the question of control of atomic industrial processes and inventions—was in the hands of Congress.

Congress has since responded in the spirit of the above-cited private utilities' report.

The objectives stated in the study prepared for the utilities corporations found their echo at the top of the government's atomic agency. Lewis L. Strauss, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, personally endorsed these objectives in the hearings on the atomic energy bill:

"In order that the principal effect of realizing nuclear power may be to confirm and strengthen rather than to change our economic institutions and our way of life, we believe that nuclear power as it becomes economically attractive should be integrated into the existing power economy of the nation; that nuclear power should be produced and distributed by the public power systems and not by the commission."

By "our economic institutions and our way of life," Strauss was referring, of course, to the capitalist private profit system dominated by the big corporations.

REP. W. STERLING COLE (R-N.Y.)

When announced on Nov. 19, 1953, that he would introduce a bill in Congress designed to turn the atomic energy industry over to private interests, he indicated that private profits were an important consideration. He said that "private investors have every right to expect some return for whatever successful efforts they do expend."

That the giant corporations did not lose sight of the possibilities for atomic profits is indicated by the following exchange during the Senate atomic debate:

Mr. LANGER. The Senator (Murray of No. Dak.) has just mentioned the sale of securities. Did the distinguished Senator know that in May the Francis I. du Pont & Co., issued a circular dealing with atomic energy, apparently feeling that this law is going to be passed?

Mr. MURRAY. I know that such a circular was issued, but I am not entirely familiar with what it contained. . . .

Mr. LANGER. Did the distinguished Senator know that not only did the issue tell what great profits could be made by various corporations, but they also told their clients to buy this particular stock because of the fact that apparently the bill was going to become law?

AEC AIDS MONOPOLIES

In the campaign to hand the atomic energy industry over to the monopolies, a leading role had been assigned to the Atomic Energy Commission itself. We have seen how the head of the commission, Strauss, had endorsed the aims of the monopolies-sponsored bill. The AEC service as a whole is honeycombed with agents of corporations interested in the profits possibilities of atomic energy. There has been a constant interchange of personnel between the government agency and the private monopolies.

This fact was disclosed by Walter K. Gutman in a March 3, 1954, N. Y. World-Telegram article emphasizing the great profits possibilities. He describes his talks with "leaders in the field at the first conference sponsored on the subject by a semi-official group, the Atomic Industrial Forum, which was set up recently to narrow the gap between government and business.

"These leaders came out of AEC service and have entered business as technical consultants or research chiefs of large corporations. Indicative of the semi-official nature of the AIF was the fact that it now is the first special depository of nonclassified atomic energy information for industry."

AEC MEMBER MURRAY

The collaboration between AEC members and the utilities corporations is most vividly illustrated in the case of Thomas E. Murray, who was appointed in 1950 to the five-man commission that controls the atomic industry. In connection with the AEC's announcement that four more privately owned electric power companies were being brought into the commission's program for studying and developing atomic reactors for the production of electric power, the Oct. 7, 1953 N. Y. World-Telegram carried a piece hailing Murray's key role in furthering the new policy.

Murray was described as a "strong believer that the atomic program eventually must pass from its state of nationalization into the realm of business-managed private ownership and operation." In fact, when the AEC decided to turn to a government-owned source of power for its gaseous diffusion plant at Paducah, Ky., Murray rushed to protect the interests of the private utilities. The World-Telegram article reveals:

"The very day the commission decided to hand the contract exclusively to the Tennessee Valley Authority, Mr. Murray went out and interested a group of private utility company executives to put in a bid.

"A month later AEC formally reversed itself and awarded half the power load to the private group, organized as Electric Energy, Inc."

This "served to establish a national pattern" and in early 1953, when the AEC needed 2,000,000 kilowatts of power for its Portsmouth, O., plant, "a combination of 15 private utility companies was formed to supply it."

KICKS OFF CAMPAIGN

It was but natural that AEC member Murray was selected to kick off the public campaign to convert the atomic energy industry into a preserve of the private monopolies. This was his announcement, last Oct. 22 in Chicago, of the commission's program for construction of the first full-scale atomic energy plant for peaceful use.

Significantly, the announcement was made in a speech at a luncheon of 200 delegates to the Electric Companies Public Information Program. Murray cited two things of special interest to them. First, he claimed that the cost of building full-scale power reactor plants is so high that "it is just not in the economic cards for private industry to spend any such sums" and that "the Federal Government must sponsor and finance full-scale power reactor development." But, the commission "will welcome offers from industry to invest risk capital in the building of the steam and turbine portions, as well as in the operation of the entire plant." He hoped "eventually industry will be carrying the greater part of the burden of this industrial development."

This perspective of the private corporations "carrying the greater part" of the ownership and control of atomic power, Murray then emphasized, "will require a liberalization of the statute (Atomic Energy Act of 1946)..."

The new atomic energy bill is so "liberal," it has been called a "giveaway" to the monopolies.

THE SOVIET "THREAT"

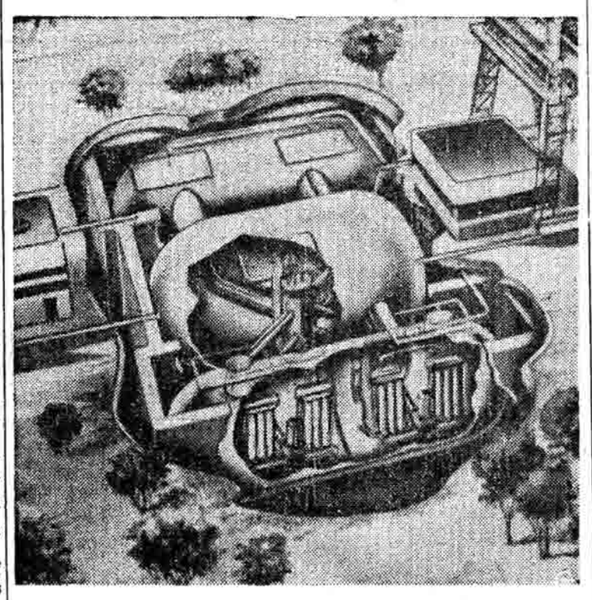
One of the most revealing observations in Murray's speech was the motivation he gave for intensified interest in atomic energy for peacetime use. He stated that the Soviet Union's development of the hydrogen bomb "is less dangerous" than "if the Soviets had announced . . . that it had been successfully operating a practical industrial nuclear power plant." He urged the gathered utilities executives to "become fully conscious of the possibility that power-hungry countries will gravitate toward the USSR if it wins the nuclear power race."

Thus, American capitalism's fear of Soviet development of atomic power for peaceful purposes, as well as the prospect of vast profits for a few big monopolies, has spurred the biggest steal in history.

Eugene G. Grace, chairman of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, on July 29 confirmed that his company is discussing merger with the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Co. The head of the second largest steel producer said also: "We do not expect there will be any appreciable change in our present operating rate of 66% during August and . . . pretty much throughout the third quarter."

In the second quarter of last year the operating rate was 104.8% of rated capacity.

Object of Monopolist Grab



An artist's sketch of the atomic reactor and heat exchanger to produce steam at the nation's first control station nuclear power plant, to be built at Shippingport, Pa., near Pittsburgh. The government is developing atomic power production at vast expense; the private corporations hope to take over the developed industry.

. . . Detroit Dodge Local Strikes Over Speedup

(Continued from page 1)

the local must file all unsettled grievances with the International before strike sanction could be granted.

Saturday, July 17: The executive board and plant committeemen met and again voted unanimously for strike action. Constituting themselves as the strike committee, they drafted a list of 32 grievances against the company, sent them to the International UAW and asked the International to sanction the strike.

Monday, July 19: In the morning a jammed meeting of the Dodge strikers voted unanimously to continue the strike. The five top officers and the seven plant committeemen were ordered to appear at an evening meeting, called by the International at Solidarity House, UAW headquarters. There four International Chrysler directors laid down the line:

The strike was "illegal," they ruled, although they did not substantiate their contention by any provisions in the UAW constitution or the Taft-Hartley Law. They demanded that the strikers return to work at once. After work was resumed, they said, another strike vote could be taken under provisions of the Taft-Hartley Act, and then the International might sanction strike action.

The spokesmen for the strikers submitted their grievances and demands on the company. They requested immediate reinstatement of the fired workers and a clear commitment by the company to negotiate production standards, which it has refused to do. They thought the strikers would be willing to return if these minimum demands were met.

The International reps called the company and informed them of the strikers' proposals. Nothing doing, said the company, refusing to negotiate anything until the strikers were back in the plant. The International reps then repeated that the workers must return to work.

A VOTE UNDER PRESSURE

Tuesday, July 20: The strike committee met for five hours with the same four International men, this time at Local 3 hall. This time they threatened to suspend the local officials and put an administrator in charge of the local if the strike was not ended. They intimated that the plant committeemen would be fired and would not get union support for reinstatement.

Under this pressure another vote was taken on whether to continue the strike. The vote was 15 for, 15 against. President Joe Cheal cast the deciding vote to continue the strike. The vote was then made unanimous and the International was again asked for strike sanction.

An evening meeting of all UAW Chrysler local presidents was called at Solidarity House. It boomeranged on the International when the local presidents gave their support to the Dodge strike.

Wednesday, July 21: Regular meeting of the strike committee. Two International reps showed up and were told there was nothing further to discuss since their grievances were in the International's hands and a formal request for strike action had been submitted. The International reps were excused from the meeting. The committee voted to request the release of $25,000 from the strike fund for a kitchen to feed the strikers. This request was presented to UAW Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey, who immediately rejected it "until the strike had been authorized."

Thursday, July 22: No International reps were present at the strike committee meeting this morning. The papers carried "no comment" from the International. Morale on the picket line was high. Workers from other Chrysler plants that were closing down encouraged the Dodge strikers. Hope grew that the International would be forced to grant strike sanction. Then came telegrams from the International ordering Dodge local officers to be present at a special meeting of the International UAW Executive Board called for the next day at Solidarity House, and to "show cause" why they were on strike.

THE BOARD'S VERDICT

Friday, July 23: Present at the five-hour meeting were all International Executive Board members, presided over by Walter Reuther, all presidents of Chrysler locals, and Local 3 representatives. The Board acted like a trial committee pressing charges against them. The verdict:

(1) "The Dodge strike is unauthorized in that it is conducted in violation of both the UAW constitution and the collective bargaining agreement between the union and the Chrysler Corp."

(2) "It has been and is the established policy of the International union to fight speedup wherever it appears, so long as proper contractual and constitutional procedures are followed."

(3) "Failure of the local union leadership to take steps makes necessary this action by the International Executive Board . . . and the board hereby directs the Dodge workers, members of Local 3, to return to work at the earliest possible date."

"WE WILL PROCEED"

To put it mildly, this decision was not popular among Dodge workers. "We can whip the company but we can't beat the International," was one statement widely repeated. "Pickets were posted at the wrong address," said one, meaning they should have been at Solidarity House rather than the Dodge plant.

President Cheal said he was convinced the local's strike action had been correct and necessary, adding, "We will proceed along the lines of the UAW's constitution and take a formal strike vote of the employees if our grievances at Dodge are not adjusted."

This reflected the workers' real sentiments. Quicker than anyone expected, a new strike authorization was voted, with 85% of the workers voting in favor. Pro-strike sentiment was so strong that International reps were sent down to speak in favor of the strike vote.

The next steps are up to the company — and the International officers. If they don't receive satisfaction, the members are ready to act again.

NAACP PUSHES DRIVE TO END TRANSPORTATION JIM CROW

A two-pronged attack on Jim Crow segregation in all interstate public transport is being conducted by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

On July 21 the House Commerce Committee approved an NAACP-sponsored bill to ban segregation practices in interstate bus, train, ship or other public transport. The bill, which would fine each violator $1,000, was adopted by a vote of 19 to 7, and then sent to the House Rules Committee, where it will probably be pigeonholed for the rest of the current session of Congress.

The NAACP has asked Eisenhower to apply pressure to get the bill passed, but there is no chance of that happening. No action has yet been taken on the bill in the Senate.

On July 27 hearings were opened on a series of complaints filed by the NAACP with the Interstate Commerce Commission against 11 railroad companies, a railroad station and a restaurant in the station.

The NAACP complaint accused the defendants of subjecting Negro passengers in interstate travel to segregation and discrimination solely because of their race and color and in violation of the Interstate Commerce Act, the Commerce Clause and the 5th and 14th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution. The ICC was asked to order the defendants to end these Jim Crow practices.

The order, however, would not apply to transportation within the states. Jim Crow travel is the law in most Southern states.

The NAACP complaint cited a number of Supreme Court decisions ruling that state segregation statutes cannot constitutionally be applied to passengers in interstate train and bus travel.

But the railroads continue to flout and evade these decisions — just as the white supremacists intend to flout and evade the recent Supreme Court decision against segregation in the public schools. It takes more than court decisions to achieve the surrender of Jim Crow.

Westbrook Pegler will not have to personally pay $175,000 damages resulting from Quentin Reynolds' libel suit. It is rumored that the Hearst Press will squeeze itself financially and pay for the poison-pen artist's work. There is no need to take up a collection.

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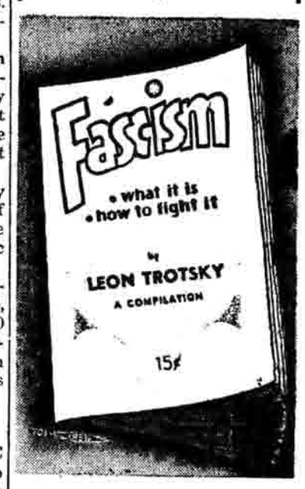

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THE MILITANT

Published Weekly in the Interests of the Working People
THE MILITANT PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION
116 University Pl., N. Y. 3, N. Y. Phone: AL 5-7460
Editor: JOSEPH HANSEN
Business Manager: DOROTHY JOHNSON

Signed articles by contributors do not necessarily represent The Militant's policies. These are expressed in its editorials.

"Entered as second class matter March 7, 1944 at the Post Office at New York, N.Y., under the act of March 3, 1879."

Vol. XVIII - No. 32 Monday, August 9, 1954

Who to Blame for High Food Prices

You don't have to look at the statistics to know where food prices have been heading. Everyone who does regular food shopping is aware that the load you carry home from the grocery for a five-dollar bill keeps getting lighter. You can tell from the weight test that prices have been rising.

A lot of unjust blame for this has fallen on the farmers. Uninformed people naturally assume that if food prices go up, the farmer is making more money and getting higher prices at his end. That is absolutely false.

The truth is that farm food prices have fallen 20% within the past three years. The average farmer has taken a big slice in his income. That fact has been reported in a survey by the Agriculture Committee of the House of Representatives, made public Aug. 2.

Higher consumer food prices, the committee finds, are a result of higher prices charged by food processors and distributors. The big canning, meat-packing, flour-milling and baking outfits are charging outrageous prices for the most basic necessities of life. The huge retail chain-store outlets have been passing on these prices, with their own extra take added.

The House committee says that none of the lower prices paid the farmers since 1951 has been passed on to consumers. It adds that "further declines in farm prices are expected," but that "consumers can expect little benefit."

This Congressional study also shows that out of each food dollar spent by the American housewife 56 cents now goes to food processors, transporters and distributors. The farmer gets only 44 cents, of which 30 cents goes for his costs of production.

A striking example of the rooking the farmers and workers (who are the chief consumers) are getting is the case of wheat and its main end-product, bread. In Jan., 1948, the farm price of wheat was $2.81 a bushel. Then the average price of a one-pound bread loaf was 13.8 cents. Now the farmer gets $1.91 a bushel for wheat, while the same bread loaf sells for 17 cents. The wheat farm price has gone down 32%; bread prices have gone up 23%.

Such a vast spread between wheat and bread prices in such a short time cannot be explained by any wage increases for food processing workers, who remain among the lowest-paid and most exploited workers in America. The real answer is profiteering by the speculators, processors, haulers and merchants. They are really stealing the bread — and meat — out of our mouths.

These scoundrels who demand their pound of flesh in exchange for a pound of bread need to be dealt with in the most decisive manner.

The biggest necessity is for a Labor Party which will rally all sections of the populace who are being victimized by the big corporations including the food monopolists. Such a party will fight to establish a Workers and Farmers Government which will end food profiteering for good and all.

Relief for the Greedy

The capitalists have figured out a way to get richer even if business gets worse. It's all done with taxes. They get Congress to pass legislation giving special tax privileges and benefits to corporations and to individuals whose incomes are derived from profits, interests and rents. These tax gimmicks, of course, do not help the average person, who is nothing but an honest hard-working wage-earner and has his taxes taken out of his pay before he gets it.

We've been having an economic decline for the past year, production has slowed down, sales have dropped, loss of overtime and short work weeks have cut take-home pay for millions of workers, while other millions have been laid off. But the big corporations have made more profits than ever.

The answer is simple: the tax laws have been so rigged that despite loss of gross income this year compared to last, the amount of net income after taxes is greater.

How beneficial to the rich this class system of taxation can be is demonstrated in the latest corporation tax reports.

For instance, General Motors, the world's largest industrial corporation, in the first six months of 1954 suffered a sales volume drop of 7%. But GM's net profits after taxes rose from $312,854,787 for the first half of 1953 to $425,250,383 in the first half of this year. That's a thumping 35% leap in take-home profits. The tax bill that went into effect this year sliced GM's taxes more than $306,000,000 for the six-month period. General Electric's sales also fell 7%, but its net profits soared 24%. E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co. — the famous "Merchants of Death" — ended the first half of this year richer by $152,150,633 compared to $114,758,444 net profits for the like period last year. Thanks to tax relief for the greedy instead of the needy, du Pont grabbed off 33% more profits after taxes, while its sales slipped 8%.

But there's more to come for those already showered with so many tax blessings. It's in the new tax law recently signed by Eisenhower. Most of the new benefits for the wealthy "have to be sought out in the fine print," advises the Aug. 6 U.S. News and World Report, which informs "you" that "a bit of study may pay big dividends."

A bit of study will show you that if you are already being paid big corporate dividends you will benefit exceedingly from this law. It provides, as U.S. News puts it, "relief for stockholders." It reduces taxes on income derived from dividends. It means $1,000 less taxes a year on a dividend income of $25,000. In the top tax bracket, "a stock paying 5 per cent will be equal to any fully taxed investment paying 7.22 per cent." That doesn't go for wages income, however.

It would take thousands of words to enumerate all the loopholes given the corporations — greater depreciation allowances, spreading "losses" over many years, bigger exemptions for foreign income, special benefits for oil, coal, utilities and insurance companies, and so on. But no cuts in the regular income taxes extorted weekly from the workers.

In the tax laws we have iron-clad proof that we have a class government — a capitalist class government.

Answer to the Housing Scandal

One of the first projects that a Labor Party in power in the United States must undertake is a vast public housing program to provide decent homes for workers at rents they can afford. To satisfy that condition these homes will have to be built and operated on a non-profit basis.

"We need two-million homes a year," stated Senator Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.) last month at a banquet of the National Housing Conference, Inc., a liberal organization specializing in the housing problem. "But," he continued, "we are only getting half that amount. Our present (slum clearance) program is clearing (slums) at about a tenth of the rate at which they are expanding. . . Our present program serves only about the upper income third."

But neither Democratic nor Republican Parties can provide for the housing needs of the workers, for they are committed to the profit system whether in housing or any other field. The Democratic administration gave the people the Federal Housing Administration scandals under which private builders operating under the FHA program made up to 10,000% windfall profits on their investment.

The Negro population was virtually excluded from the FHA building project. Charles Abrams, a housing expert, speaking at a session of the National Housing Conference, Inc., stated that "while Negroes represent 10% of the population, less than 1% of FHA housing has been accorded them. Segregation is . . . increasing in the North."

Such is the record of the Democratic administration. The Republicans have offered nothing different. Both have been careful not to go against the interests of the powerful real estate lobby, whose members pump out huge profits from the overcrowded, rat-infested, fire-trap slums of the cities.

The slum clearance program started by the Roosevelt administration under which public housing projects have been built, has never been more than a drop in the bucket. Congress further gutted this program in the present session. The Congressmen cut Eisenhower's pitiful recommendation of 140,000 new units during the next four years to a maximum of 35,000 new units during the next year.

The housing problem is insoluble on the basis of the capitalist system of profiteering, but a workers' government will be able to solve it easily and quickly, as Frederic Engels explained in his book, The Housing Question, a classic of the Socialist movement first published in 1887. There *is* enough decent housing to go around even now — at least on an emergency basis — if Engels' solution is applied. Engels proposed that all the mansions, the ritzy hotels, the swank apartments of the capitalist class — with their excess room — be taken over by the workers' government and used to quarter "the homeless and those workers excessively crowded in their former houses."

This would be a starter. A workers' government would then seize all large real estate holdings, destroy the slums and launch a home building program on a planned basis, which would break up the congestion of the big cities and bring about the merger of town and country — agriculture, industry and residential neighborhoods spread out over the face of the country — of course on a non-segregated basis.

Police State Bill Knifes Fifth Amendment

By Daniel Roberts

"Talk or go to jail!" That is the choice a witness before congressional witch-hunting committees will be given under provisions of the so-called "immunity" bill now before the House of Representatives. The Senate has already passed a similar bill, introduced by McCarran, author of many police state measures. The "immunity" bill stands high on the Eisenhower administration's list of "must" legislation.

The "immunity" bill would strip a witness of protection given by the clause of the Fifth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution which says that no person "shall be compelled . . . to be a witness against himself." The witch hunters claim they are not taking away any rights because under provisions of the bill a witness would escape criminal prosecution once he testifies. However, the witness could still be cited for contempt or perjury and jailed if the "investigating" committee did not like his answers.

The "immunity" bill is designed to help McCarthy, Velde and Jenner in their witch-hunting attacks. "The committees which this bill is intended to aid have far exceeded their legal functions and have engaged in mass trials of 'subversives'" writes Leonard B. Boudin, noted Constitutional lawyer, in an article, "The Immunity Bill," published in the Georgetown Law Review for May, 1954. The objective of the bill, he says, is "to increase a congressional power of harassment already at high water mark."

BURDEN ON ACCUSER

The Fifth Amendment, says Boudin, "stands today as the only complete answer to a congressional investigation of political beliefs and associations." It is true that many persons have been fired or otherwise victimized as "Fifth Amendment Communists." Nevertheless, Boudin points out, the Fifth Amendment "remains effective in the principal area for which it was intended, to require the accuser rather than the accused to produce the incriminating evidence."

Of course, says Boudin, government informers in congressional hearings — such as Paul Crouch or Manning Johnson — don't need the "immunity" statute to make them talk. But many persons "will become involuntary informers under the proposed bill unless they are prepared to face contempt proceedings. . . Under congressional pressure, with loose rules of examination prevailing, a weak person may be led into speculation, exaggeration and even lies concerning the political views and associations of his friends. For above his head lies the threat of federal prosecution for contempt if the committee believes that he is withholding information and for perjury if it doubts his veracity."

Moreover, congressional hearings — those of McCarthy in particular — are marked by a "degree of bullying inconceivable in court, where the testimony fails to satisfy the examiner; this has occasionally brought the witness to the desired objective; particularly where he is asked his opinions of others."

There is no doubt, says Boudin, that the use of informers — whose testimony is notoriously untruthful — would be greatly increased by the passage of the "immunity" bill.

GREATER RISKS

But there is an even greater risk than false accusation, says Boudin. "It is the prosecution of the innocent for perjury." As he points out, "Senator McCarthy has publicly viewed his investigations as a means of convicting witnesses of contempt or perjury in the absence of substantive crime." The Fifth Amendment stands in his way. That is why he wants the privilege against self-incrimination removed.

Furthermore, witnesses invoke the Fifth Amendment not only to protect themselves but others as well. McCarthy wants to disrupt the solidarity among victims of the witch hunt by jailing for contempt any person who refuses to rat on his fellow man.

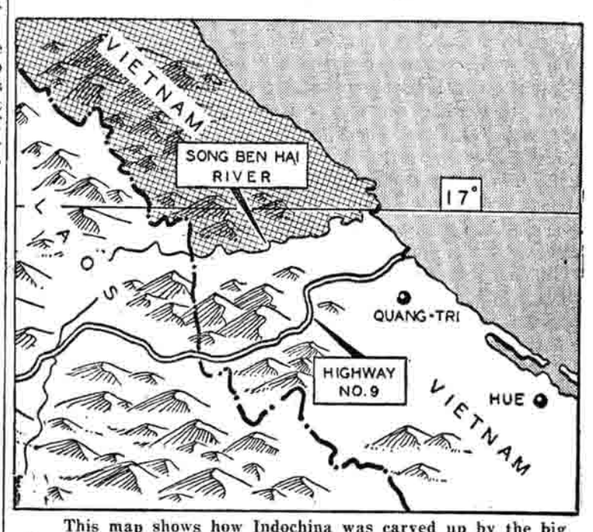
OTHER GIMMICKS

"The immunity bill promises more than it can give," says Boudin. In the federal area it will give immunity only for criminal prosecution. But what about "loyalty" purges, screening from the waterfront or defense industries, internment in concentration camps under the McCarran Internal Security Act, and all other witch-hunting measures that do not require court trial? Immunity, says Boudin, would not be given in that area. So that the information a witness is compelled to give can lead to his own victimization.

The "immunity" bill would waive prosecution only for federal criminal offenses. But many states have "anti-subversive" laws, carrying jail punishment. A person who is forced to testify against himself before a congressional body may be furnishing evidence that might be used against him in a frameup trial in his state.

The kind of legislation that is needed, says Boudin in conclusion, is not the kind that increases the harrying powers of the witch-hunting committees, but bills that would protect the rights of individuals summoned before them. That includes safeguarding the Fifth Amendment. But even that is not enough. What is really needed to protect democratic liberties is to do away with these witch-hunting bodies altogether.

Indochina Dividing Line



This map shows how Indochina was carved up by the big imperialist powers and Moscow and Peiping at Geneva. Partition was ratified by French and Vietminh representatives. This deal hands the French butchers three-quarters of the land area of Indo China. Well over half the people remain under enslavement of the French invaders.

New York Fascist Demonstrators Scream Approval of 'Victim' Cohn

NEW YORK, July 29 — Some 2,000 hysterical fascists jammed a $7-a-plate testimonial dinner for Roy Cohn in the Grand Ballroom of the Astor Hotel, last night. According to the committee in charge, more than 6,000 others were turned away for lack of space.

Planned as a mobilization of leading McCarthyites in New York, the rally screamed its approval of Senator McCarthy, America's would-be Hitler, and his lieutenant, Cohn, the first major "victim" in the movement he is assembling in hope of taking over the Republican Party and eventually the White House.

The roster of 21 supporting organizations at the dinner included the American Legion, Catholic War Veterans, Jewish War Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Ancient Order of Hibernians, the Sons of the American Revolution, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the United Republicans of America, the N. Y. City Federation of Women's Clubs, and American Coalition of Patriotic Societies.

These groups presented Cohn with enough scrolls, citations and bronze plaques to fill "a truck" in the words of Rabbi Benjamin Schultz, co-ordinator of the Joint Committee Against Communism, who presided.

The lists of speakers included such infamous reactionaries as Alfred Kohlberg of the China Lobby and the American-Jewish League Against Communism, William F. Buckley, Jr., co-author of the book "McCarthy and His Enemies," Fulton Lewis, Jr., George Sokolsky and Prof. Godfrey P. Schmidt of the Fordham University Law School.

Archibald B. Roosevelt, son of Pres. Theodore Roosevelt, struck one of the keys repeatedly sounded at the rally. The "anti-Communists," he said, "do not and did not have anyone to help us in the White House."

Prof. Schmidt voiced the McCarthyite "treason" theme, applying it to Indochina. The "loss" of part of that country, he said, was due to the French people — "effete, weak and cowardly." He deplored the lack of a Roy Cohn and Sen. McCarthy in France.

Sokolsky claimed that the size of the gathering indicated the day is coming when "no man dares run for public office except on a platform of sincere anti-Communism."

STOOLPIGEON ON DAIS

Among the guests on the dais were the FBI's most notorious stoolpigeon, Louis Budenz. Others included Westbrook Pegler, who recently openly advocated fascism to handle organized labor in America, financier E. F. Hutton, Connecticut manufacturer Vivian Kellems, Justice Robert Morris of the Municipal Court, Clarence E. Manion, former dean of the University of Notre Dame Law School, and Robert Vogeler, business man who was imprisoned in Hungary for 17 months on charges of spying.

The wildly applauding crowd gave Sen. McCarthy a four-minute ovation. The Wisconsin demagogue painted Cohn as a martyr — "the most brilliant man I have ever been in contact with . . . a victim" but still not a victim; he "has too much good American courage and guts." He said he had offered to put Cohn on his "personal" payroll, but Cohn had refused. McCarthy said that Cohn in being fired from his committee had "really won a great victory."

FASCIST YOUTH SPEAKER

One of the highlights of the frenzied gathering was a speech by a 17-year-old sophomore of Columbia College representing the fascist youth organization Students of America. "As the Chicago Tribune aptly put it," he said, "the case of Roy Cohn is the American Dreyfus case; as Dreyfus was redeemed, so will Roy Cohn be when the American people have taken back their government from the criminal alliance of Communists, Socialists and New Dealers, and Eisenhower-Dewey Republicans that is ruining America." This brought the audience to its feet in a burst of frantic cheering.

McCARTHYITE SYMBOL

Rabbi Schultz, who presented Cohn with a bronze plaque, said the meeting represented a "national show of confidence" in Roy Cohn. The young lawyer, he declared, "is a symbol of the people's revolt against politicians who are soft on treason; over-educated professors who are soft in the head; and writers, commentators and others who are soft for Alger Hiss and Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer, but are against Louis Budenz, J. B. Matthews, McCarthy and Cohn. . . The people know that the loss of Cohn (from McCarthy's committee) is like the loss of a dozen battleships."

In accepting the plaque, Cohn said the present period "has ushered in a new chapter in American history." He did not refer to this as the rise of a native fascist movement under McCarthy's leadership, but as "a chapter in which public officers now know that they are accountable to the American people."

Some of the most significant indications of the fascist character of the gathering came from Rabbi Schultz. After the speeches, he shouted a series of questions to the audience. "Shall we meet again . . . in greater numbers?" ". . . in every precint, borough, city and state of the nation?" "Shall we strike terror in the hearts of the ADA of both political parties?" "Shall we mould public opinion?" "Shall we let our officials know they are not our bosses but our servants?" After each question, the audience roared back, "Yes," with thunderous applause.

...Senate Ducks on M'Carthy

(Continued from page 1)

"coddling communists" unless "he runs the committee." And that's true too. The new committee will either coddle McCarthy or be hogtied by him —the same thing that happened to the previous committees investigating him. McCarthyism can't be controlled or destroyed by people who share its "anti-communist" premises.

"CONSOLING" THOUGHT?

McCarthy would probably have preferred that the Flanders resolution be voted down, rather than referred to the new committee. But it would be erroneous to consider the passage of the Knowland motion and the postponement of disciplinary action against McCarthy as anything but a distinct gain for the McCarthyites.

The editors of the N. Y. Times tried hard on Aug. 4 to discover some kind of silver lining. Admitting gloomily that the result of the new probe "will hardly be conclusive" and that "McCarthy may escape the censure of his peers," they nevertheless end with a thought intended to be consoling: "But he will not come out triumphant from this episode. If the majority of his fellow-Senators hesitate to condemn him, they hesitate likewise to give him a clean bill of health."

But McCarthy doesn't need a clean bill of health from the Senate to emerge triumphant from the attempts of his capitalist political opponents to "curb" him. All he needs is to show that he can't be curbed — and he will then be in a position, by means of a few sensational "spy" hearings, to quickly recoup whatever minor losses he has sustained since the start of the Army hearings.

The least that the Senate would have done, if it intended to uphold capitalist democracy, was to impeach the fascist demagogue, but it balks even at the proposal to censure him. This makes it clearer than ever that McCarthyism faces no real danger at the hands of the Democratic and Republican politicians whom the labor leaders are depending on to save America from fascism.

World Events

By Fred Hart

CANDIDATES OF THE LANKA SAMA SAMAJA PARTY, Ceylonese Trotskyists, have consistently polled 48% of the popular vote in the numerous wards they contested in recently concluded municipal elections held throughout Ceylon, according to the Samasamajist, publication of the party. In the Colombo elections held on July 24, the Left parties elected 15 seats on the Municipal Council against 16 elected by the capitalist United Nationalist Party. Nine seats were won by candidates backed by the Lanka Sama Samaja Party, including six party members. The other Left councilmen were elected by the Stalinist Front. The workers parties polled 52% of the vote.

The over-all result of the Ceylonese municipal elections are summed up in the Samasamajist as follows: "There is a distinct move away from the UNP towards the Left in general and the LSSP in particular. However, viewing the entire series of local government elections it is too early to gauge definitely the actual shift to the Left. One thing is clear: the LSSP has definitely recovered from the electoral slump of the 1952 Parliamentary election.

"The 1954 local elections have ended . . . in an overwhelming defeat for the capitalist UNP. Adding Colombo to the list, the LSSP has still won more seats than any other party. And let us stress that our victories have been against all other parties and groups. . . The most unprincipled and shameless alliances have been forged to bring about our defeat. The results speak for themselves. The LSSP victories have been 100 percent **political** victories. . . Our election campaigns are fought entirely on . . . **an anti-capitalist** basis. And we have come out on top!"

* * *

STALINIST DISRUPTION in Ceylon kept the workers' movement from scoring even more impressive victories against the capitalist UNP in the local elections. In Colombo, "Had the Stalinists not refused the LSSP proposal for a joint list of candidates on the basis of mutual support, the Left would undoubtedly have won a straight majority," says the Samasamajist. "Not the UNP but the LSSP is to these gentlemen the main enemy. . . That is why they flung disruptionist candidates indiscriminately against LSSP candidates wherever they could. And that is why in several wards they did not hesitate to support even UNPers. . . The Stalinists, with their disruptive policy, betrayed Colombo to the UNP."

There were similar betrayals in other cities, the Samasamajist points out. "At Avsawella, the Stalinist Front worked openly **and publicly for** the UNP against the LSSP; and the Vice-President of the local UNP publicly thanked Mr. Philip Gunawardena for his support without which, he declared, the UNP could not have won the election."

* * *

THE INDOCHINESE LANDLORDS AND CAPITALISTS are already "laying plans for a comeback performance," according to Gordon Walker writing from Saigon in the Christian Science Monitor of July 28. Their base of operations will be the southern portion of Vietnam, accorded them in the partition of Indochina at Geneva, and the city of Haiphong in the North which they have 300 days to evacuate. **General Nguyen Van Hinh, commander of the Vietnam National Army (the army of the puppet regime created by French imperialism), hopes to rebuild his forces with American aid until it numbers 350,000. He plans to use the two-year interval before nation-wide elections are to take place to "maintain the security of south Vietnam . . . and, he added, with a knowing glance at the wall map showing all of Indochina 'engage in other missions.'"**

* * *

"SEDITION" COURTS were set up in Indochinese territory retained by French imperialism and the Vietnam puppet government. According to the N.Y. Times of Aug. 4, the Vietnamese Government created such courts in Hanoi in the North and Hue in the South. These are undoubtedly designed as part of a reign of terror against Vietminh supporters throughout all the territory which the Kremlin handed to the French under the terms of the Geneva Conference betrayal.

* * *

"LAND REFORM" IN REVERSE was instituted in Guatemala on July 27. According to the N. Y. Times, the U.S.-backed Armas dictatorship decreed a new agrarian law in which landlords could grab back the land that was granted to the peasants under the land division law passed by the Arbenz regime in 1952. All the expropriated landlords have to do is return the agrarian bonds and interest they received and the land will once again be theirs. "Among those who will undoubtedly recover some, if not all, of their land is the United Fruit Company," says the Times. The peasants, however, will be allowed to harvest this year's crop before falling once more in the clutches of the landlords. Also the government promises to open up for the peasants "national regions now inaccessible because of lack of communications, irrigation and drainage."

* * *

PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE? "The largest of the limited 'hot wars' in Korea and Indochina, have ended temporarily," says Hanson W. Baldwin, military expert of the N.Y. Times, in the Aug. 3 issue. "Here is an incomplete list of smaller hot wars that are continuing — with no end in sight — in many parts of the world." He cites Malaya, The Philippines, Burma, Indonesia, India, Kenya, Israel and French North Africa. Most of the struggles he mentions are colonial wars for national independence or civil wars related to the colonial struggle. These open conflicts and others that are smoldering testify to the fact that there can be no "peaceful co-existence" between imperialism and the masses of workers and peasants throughout the world.

Los Angeles
James Kutcher
Speaks on
My Case — the Case of the Legless Veteran
Fri., Aug. 13, 8:15 P. M.
Channing Hall, 2936 W. 8th St.
(Near Vermont)
Auspices
Kutcher Civil Rights Committee
Admission $1

THE MILITANT

VOLUME XVIII — MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 1954 — NUMBER 32

The Negro Struggle

By Jean Blake

Lester Granger Resigns

Some months ago in this column we criticized rather sharply a speech by Lester Granger, National Urban League head, in which he advised social workers not to get involved in political struggles, nor to do anything that would earn them the label of "liberal."

We were particularly disgusted with the implication in his remarks as reported in the press, that social workers are now paying for their "sins" of liberalism by not being consulted or appointed to government jobs under the Eisenhower administration — as though the payoff of a government job were sufficient reward for conforming to Jim Crow conditions, injustice, and reaction!

But last week's news in a United Press report, though brief and lacking in important details, tells of an action by Mr. Granger that this columnist wants to support heartily. It said:

"Lester Granger, special consultant to the navy on racial problems, has submitted his resignation on grounds the navy is not doing enough to wipe out race discrimination."

The item was buried in small type, did not quote Mr. Granger's statement or any motivating remarks he may have made, and was surrounded by paragraphs anticipating what the administration will say to refute Granger's charges. But none of the apologetics could weaken the impact of his action:

When a conservative, pro-capitalist social worker like Lester Granger, whose philosophy calls for adaptation to changing political regimes rather than a fundamental transformation of the social system, is compelled to protest the navy's failure to eliminate racial discrimination, we have an indictment of the administration that no volumes of official press statements can offset.

It is also an indication of how deep the dissatisfaction of the Negro masses is with the snail's pace at which discrimination is being eliminated in this country, since men like Granger reflect their reactions only in a pale and belated fashion.

Republican politicians preparing for the November elections will undoubtedly attempt to label the resignation a partisan move, and some may even smear it as "aiding and abetting" the Chinese or Indo-Chinese or Africans or Guatemalans or others who question the State Department's claims to leadership of the "free world." But such smears will affect the American and international workers and colonial people about as much as the proverbial water on a duck's back.

On the other hand, the ease with which Mr. Granger has been able to take the step of saying "No" to the policy of continuing to whitewash American Jim Crow may make some people think: What if all Negro and labor leaders followed a principled course of resigning from government and other capitalist agencies which practice racial discrimination? What if all working class organizations united to boycott all Jim Crow institutions? What if they were to break with the double-talking Democratic and Republican politicians and embark on a truly independent course of political action, to put into effect a positive program in their own interest, instead of a negative program of pleading and protest?

A First-Rate Novel

By Carl Goodman

YOUNGBLOOD. By John O. Killens. The Dial Press, Inc., New York, 1954. $3.95. 566 pages.

Youngblood is a first-rate novel. It deals with three generations of the Youngblood family, all fighters against Jim Crow. The main site for their struggle is Crossroads, Georgia — a mill town dominated by George Cross. The Youngbloods are a working class family.

The author, John O. Killens, a Negro intellectual, writes as an optimist. His story is not a story of despair like Richard Wright's account of the Negro struggle in "Uncle Tom's Children." Wright, like Killens, portrays heroic fighters. But they are lone individuals. And their courageous stand against oppression ends inevitably in defeat and death — or at best escape to the North — with no one on hand to continue the fight.

Nor is Youngblood all hurray and clear sailing to victory. It is not a Stalinist-type novel written on a bureaucrat's order and filled with synthetic cheer.

The Youngbloods know the bitterness of defeat and death. There is the agonizing scene where Laurie Lee Youngblood must whip Rob, her son, in the police station in front of the leering cracker because this is a lesser evil to having him brutalized in reform school. And Rob, who has done nothing wrong and who has been taught by his mother to rebel against white supremacy doesn't understand her submission in this instance and grows bitter.

But there is victory, too, alternating with defeat, and there are people who learn from both. There is rekindled hope and confidence regained. A younger generation moves into battle, and no one flees from the South. There is a triumph scored when the Big Rich White Folk are beaten at their own miserable game. They want the children of the Jim Crow school to stage a jubilee — to sing the Negro spirituals for them. The Negro community complies. It isn't yet safe or wise to say no.

But the new teacher organizes a jubilee that the white crackers don't expect. Rob Youngblood, under the teacher's coaching introduces each song with an account of its origins in the days of slavery.

Rob explains. "Coming for to carry me home. Home was in Heaven," he says, "but Home wasn't only in Heaven. Home was up north in the Promised Land. Away from the chains of slavery — Away from the lash of the whip. . . And every chance a slave could get he would get on board that Glory train (the Underground Railway) and — *Steal away to Jesus.*"

The Negro community is inspired by this account of slave revolts and their own defiance of the modern slave-owners. A few white allies come forward — including one white worker, the kind of ally that counts most. And the Big Rich White Folk and the Uncle Toms can't do anything about it.

As Killens takes leave of the Youngbloods and Crossroads, Georgia, on the eve of World War II, the crackers are still in power. But the determination to fight is there. The self-confidence is there. And the program is there: Negro solidarity, win the white workers, organize the unions and wage the Negro struggle as part of the working class fight aganst capitalism.

Notes from the News

HAUNTED BY "NO HELP WANTED" SIGNS, 15 students representing 14 different colleges and six different countries are "learning a hard lesson in economics," reports Doris Millavec in the Cleveland News. The students arrived in Cleveland "as eager participants in the internes-in-industry project of the American Friends Service Committee." At the start of a third "unsuccessful week of jobhunting," one girl "landed a bubble gum packing job after more than 50 other tries had failed." Since then four other girls and one of the men have found jobs, but nine of the men are still unemployed. Robert Greenwood, director of the project, claims that "some of them are getting desperate."

* * *

"WHERE DO THEY GO?" asks John Metcalfe, columnist for the Cleveland Plain Dealer, about the unemployed persons dropped off the Bureau of Unemployment Compensation rolls when their "26-week benefit claims" are exhausted. He says that "some are showing up" at the welfare department; others "are turning to the Soldiers and Sailors Relief Commission"; some "drop out of the labor market"; others "depend on private resources or take fill-in jobs. The more fortunate are called back to their former jobs." The less "fortunate"? They remain in Cleveland's "jobless pool" which numbered 36,000 in June.

* * *

UNEMPLOYMENT IS BLAMED for the return of 100 Detroit parolees to Jackson State Prison within the last three months for violating their parole terms. Leonard A. Schaar, district supervisor of Michigan's pardons, paroles and probation division, states, according to a Detroit News story, that more than 60% of the city's 2,000 parolees are "beating the pavement" looking for jobs. "The majority . . . are family men with obligations to meet — obligations that cost money." They try their best to "go straight" and earn the money by working. "But it is difficult to convince a hungry ex-convict how lucky he is to be free."

* * *

HIJACKING of frozen foods, meat, poultry, eggs, coffee, hosiery, cigarets and whiskey is showing a "steady rise." It is the "high prices" of these "favored items," states the Wall Street Journal of July 26, which "make many truck cargoes tempting prizes."

* * *

ANOTHER SIGN OF THE TIMES. The FBI reports "that crimes of all types are occurring at the highest rate on record," including "bank robberies" which have reached a "new high."

* * *

"FOOD PRICES, RISING FOR THE THIRD CONSECUTIVE MONTH," were "responsible" for the "over-all increase" in the Consumers Price Index for the United States, which "is the highest since January." The N.Y. Times of July 24 lists a few of the items "responsible" for the increase: fresh fruit, coffee, pork chops, and all cuts of beef.

* * *

TWENTY-FIVE BLIND BROOM MAKERS in Pittsburgh who "want to work and don't want charity" have ended their five-month strike. James Leri, spokesman for the men, said they "had been paid $1.13 a dozen to make brooms" but that the Pennsylvania Association for the Blind "tried to reduce that to 78c a dozen so we walked off the job." They have no union. Most of them "know of no other way to make a living than to make brooms" and "some of the fellows have been here 30 to 35 years." After tapping their way along the picket line for five months, these blind workers have now "agreed to accept the lower rates with a guarantee that added production would give them the same take-home pay," according to a July 27 UP dispatch. They put up a heroic fight, but even the blind finally had to swallow the wage-slash-and-speed-up prescription with which capitalism meets a declining market.

* * *

COFFEE CONSUMPTION is sagging under the weight of high prices. The July 27 Wall Street Journal says that while "Nobody can be sure that Americans are drinking notably fewer cups of coffee . . . evidence is strong that housewives are buying less of the beverage." One big food chain reports 1954 sales running 25% below a year ago; another estimates its sales down 15%.

An Open Letter to Newark AFL and CIO On Velde Committee's Witch-Hunt Probe

Newark, N. J.
Aug. 5, 1954

Essex Trades Council, AFL
Essex-West Hudson CIO Council

Dear Sirs and Brothers:

I urge you to publicly denounce the coming "investigation" in Newark by the House Un-American Activities Committee, also known as the Velde committee. I believe it is your duty to the labor movement and the people of Newark not to cooperate with this group in any way.

The House Un-American Activities Committee is anti-labor, anti-Negro and anti-liberal. It is a McCarthyite outfit through and through.

This committee has been condemned dozens of times by national conventions of the AFL and the CIO. In your own interest, you should follow suit — before it makes its expedition to Newark.

WHY IT'S COMING

Why is the Velde committee coming here? Not to uncover espionage and treason. That is a mere pretext. Genuine espionage and treason are not uncovered by means of sensational public hearings. The Velde committee has not brought a single person to trial for espionage or treason.

The aim of the Velde committee is not to investigate, but to intimidate, smear and victimize. It seeks to intimidate everybody to the left of McCarthy, to smear political dissenters and non-conformists, to victimize people and get them fired from their jobs.

It will try to accomplish these things by creating a "red" scare in this city, by giving the impression that our "security" is menaced by a powerful "communist conspiracy." This is the same formula that Hitler used to bring fascism to power in Germany.

If the Velde committee is successful at this game, it will strengthen the pro-McCarthy forces in our community. It will divert attention away from the coming investigation of Republican corruption in New Jersey. It will undermine the fight against unemployment, Taft-Hartleyism and Jim Crow. Thus it will weaken all movements for social reform — the unions, liberal groups, Negro and Jewish organizations.

The Velde committee claims it is protecting the country from the "communist conspiracy." But actually it is exploiting the communist issue in order to McCarthyize American life. The truth is that the weak and uninfluential Communist Party is a legal organization, whose members have — and should have — the same constitutional rights to speak, meet and engage in political activity as any other party.

Those who persecute the members of the Communist Party because of their beliefs are setting a precedent that will hurt all other political tendencies except the fascists. If the Communist Party can be outlawed, so can other parties; if McCarthy comes to power, he will call all of his opponents "communists" and outlaw them too. If we permit Communist Party members to be deprived of their democratic rights, then we will be giving McCarthy & Co. a precedent for doing the same thing to other parties — including the Democratic Party, which he has already branded as a "party of treason."

As a firm political opponent of Stalinism, I tell you this: No matter how strongly you are opposed to the policies of the Communist Party, it is your obligation to defend the democratic rights of its members. If you fail to meet this obligation, the example you set will some day be used against you.

HOW IT OPERATES

How does the Velde committee operate? It uses perjured testimony from paid informers or frightened people seeking to protect themselves. It proceeds in accord with the theory of "guilt by association." It employs the malicious smear that witnesses who refuse to testify are "Fifth Amendment Communists."

But using the Fifth Amendment is not proof of guilt. The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled: "If it be objected that refusal to answer was an implication of crime, we answer, not necessarily in fact, not at all in theory of law."

The Fifth Amendment is a basic part of the U.S. Constitution because it protects witnesses from being compelled to testify against themselves. This is especially important when you are being questioned by people whose aim is to twist everything you say so that you can be jailed for either "perjury" or "contempt."

The Fifth Amendment came into existence to protect citizens from persecution for their beliefs. That is how the amendment is being used today. Those who refuse to supply information to the Velde committee are acting in the best traditions of the battles for freedom.

Most persons using the Fifth Amendment do so not only to protect themselves from false accusation but to keep from being forced to inform on others. They thereby practice the principle of solidarity on which the life of the labor movement depends. They should be defended in their refusal to become stoolpigeons. It is no more valid to inform than it is to scab.

I believe it is your responsibility to lead the working people of Newark in protecting their rights from invasion by the Velde committee. I urge you to take the following steps:

(1) Pass resolutions expressing your opposition to the Velde committee and its hearings.

(2) Call on workers not to volunteer information to this committee. Encourage witnesses brought before the committee to protect themselves and others by invoking the Fifth Amendment. Pledge to defend anyone victimized for refusing to testify or cooperate with this committee.

(3) Sponsor public meetings at which the aims and methods of the Velde committee may be fully and freely debated. These meetings should begin before the Velde hearings start, and be continued throughout the "investigation" to counteract the poison the committee intends to spread.

If you take such steps, you will be supported and followed by most of the city's liberal, minority and civic groups. If you remain silent, you will be playing into the hands of the Velde committee.

Fraternally,
GEORGE BREITMAN
Socialist Workers Party
Candidate for U.S. Senator

Says Indochina No Munich

Undersecretary of State Gen. Walter Bedell Smith (left), arriving at Washington Natl. Airport from Geneva, declared that the French agreement with the Vietminh in Indochina is not "another Munich." He's dead right, too. The Stalinist regimes of Moscow and Peiping agreed to give the French imperialists, who were facing total defeat, a new big foothold on Indochina.

Army Suspends Mrs. Moss Again

Mrs. Annie Lee Moss, Negro Pentagon clerk and victim of McCarthyism, was suspended from her job for a second time by the Army on Aug. 4. Accused of Communist Party membership by McCarthy and a government informer who admitted never having seen her, Mrs. Moss denied the charges under oath, after which she was temporarily reinstated to her job.

The Army claimed the new suspension was the result of "information which was not previously available" and said Mrs. Moss could have a hearing if she wished.

McCarthy, delighted by the news, said Army Secretary "Bob Stevens should be complimented."

Chicago Meat Workers Strike Against Layoffs

CHICAGO, July 30 — The Chicago plant of Armour and Co. was closed down for one week July 12 by the united action of all 4,000 production and mechanical workers. The issues in the strike were stated in a bulletin issued by the striking Armour Local 347 of the CIO Packinghouse Workers:

"In the past months, Armour & Co. has been adding more work on various jobs, throwing more and more of our members in the streets. Our last convention held in Sioux City, Iowa, voted that we cannot and will not tolerate inhuman speedups on the part of the Packers.

"By giving one oiler two machines to handle creates serious safety hazards. The greasy floors and rushing to keep these giant machines running properly with the temperature over 100 degrees, will only endanger the lives of the individual workers on these jobs. The same situation exists on practically every job where speedup is being put into effect."

While this quotation describes what precipitated the walkout, underlying it is the determination of the packers to replace men with machines and drive down the standards of the remaining workers. Armour's "modernization" program is a typical example of the fact that introduction of automatic machinery and labor-saving methods do not mean improved conditions for the workers under capitalism. Such programs are designed to bring about more profits for the few, and more unemployment and misery for the many.

HEAVY LAYOFFS

About 2,600 Armour workers have been laid off or fired since January, 1954. The sheep-kill and the frosted foods divisions were closed down completely. The management, fearful of the solidarity between Negro and white workers, used the layoffs as a means to play favorites. They are doing their best to stir up competition between workers for the fewer jobs, and are violating union seniority provisions in the process.

Layoffs hit production workers from the start, even while some mechanical workers still were being hired. Only when mechanical workers were affected by layoffs did the local union leadership request strike authorization from the international office. However, once there was an opportunity for the production workers to do battle with the company on the issue of jobloads, speedup, and layoffs, they accepted the mechanical workers' grievances as their own. Which, of course, it was. The production workers thus showed a clear understanding of the problems facing labor in this period.

WEAKNESS OF OFFICERS

The real issue in the strike was not a petty wage increase for a small section of the workers. It was the issue of job security and employment of all Armour workers at a decent standard of living. Yet in the strike settlement the local union officers accepted an agreement for 3c an hour for the oilers remaining on the job. Those laid off were not reinstated. The main issue of layoffs was shoved aside, unsolved.

This was made unmistakably clear on the first day's return to work after the strike. Not only were the laid off oilers not reinstated but the workers found all but two plant gates locked. The net effect of this is to increase the unpaid time the workers must now put in on company premises since it takes longer to get in and out. Moreover, it enables the company to "prune" some gate attendants from the payroll.

WHAT IS NEEDED

The way to fight unemployment is by winning a shorter work week without any reduction in take-home pay. The 30-hour week for 40 hours' pay demand is already endorsed by the CIO Packinghouse Workers, and has been approved bythe AFL national convention and several CIO internationals.

What is now necessary is to put this 30-for-40 program into action. It should be first on the list of contract demands to be negotiated between the international union and the packers. This demand should be backed up by serving notice on the packers that this time the entire membership mean business — that is, all the locals of the packinghouse international union.

In addition the fight should be broadened. The packinghouse union should call on the CIO and the AFL to prepare a fight by all labor on this issue. Unemployment and speedup are dealing heavy blows to labor everywhere and the unions will be smashed by the companies unless they act together and militantly.

Our Readers Take the Floor

Cosmetics and The Women

Editor:

I would like to make some criticisms of the article entitled "Sagging Cosmetic Lines Try a Face Lift" in the July 26 issue.

I am not taking issue with the intention of the author as it is apparent that he means to hit the cosmetic companies, which make a business of exploiting the deep yearnings of women for their own greater profits. In spite of the obvious purpose of the article, however, one gets the feeling that it is the women who are being made fun of.

In order to effectively attack these companies, we have to first understand why women are so vulnerable to their advertising schemes. Rather than presenting women as being a little ridiculous, we have to know what they want, sympathize with them, and then translate their desires into action by showing that they can get all these things only through socialism.

Now what is it that women want, which makes it easy for the cosmetic companies to wring out of these strivings profits for themselves? They want some loveliness and beauty in their lives. They want to rise above the sweaty grind of the shop, which distorts their bodies, and breaks down their spirit with fatigue and hopelessness. The housewife wants to break away from the monotony and dull routine of trying to manage on a worker's wages. Not only is she bogged down with innumerable chores, so that she has no time to take care of herself, but she can't afford good clothes. Soon all the youth and attractiveness, which by right belong to her, are snatched away, and both wife and husband are left with a feeling that they have been robbed of something essential.

We have to recognize that like many of the other good things in life, such as leisure to study, travel, appreciation of art and literature, beauty is predominately monopolized by the wealthy. Whatever beauty a woman has in her early years, if she has been lucky enough to have had some advantages during childhood, is quickly dissipated among the working class. If one has to struggle against all odds to maintain her health, what chance has she to maintain her attractiveness?

The wealthy are beautiful because the workers are wretched. If we understand that, we can show the women a way out of this dilemma. This striving has a progressive aspect, because it is part of the rebellion of women against a position which denies to them part of their rights as human beings.

On the basis of the havoc caused by capitalism, and the confusion among the women, these cosmetic companies are then able to perpetrate a fraud and an outrage against these women. They promise to give to them what capitalism has taken away. We can show that socialism will bring to flower beauty in all its forms, and that every individual will be developed to his fullest capacity, both physically and intellectually.

Louise Manning
Los Angeles, Calif.

Protests H-Bomb Tests in Pacific

Editor:

I have sent the following protest to President Eisenhower, signed by myself and members of my church:

"We, the undersigned, most strongly protest against the H-bomb tests which endanger the natives of the Marshall Islands, who are so unable to defend themselves.

"We support most firmly their heart-rending appeal to the civilized world to save them from the worst horrors ever inflicted upon human beings.

"Mr. President, how can you sit in the White House and allow these ghastly experimentations upon such helpless people, which you know may cause them to be mutilated for life or tortured to death?"

A. S.
Cambridge, Mass.

Argument Over How To Stop McCarthy

Editor:

My brother, who is anti-McCarthy but isn't attached to any party, says this: "If you want to stop McCarthy, then you've got to get him off the chairmanship of that Senate committee. Since the Joe-Must-Go move failed in Wisconsin and since the Senate has no intention of taking the chairmanship away from him, then there is only one practical thing to do, and that is to elect a Democratic majority in the Senate this November, which would automatically remove him from the chairmanship."

In reply, I pointed out to him that the Democrats controlled both the White House and Congress when McCarthy first became a serious menace, and that the return of the Democrats would not really "stop" McCarthy although loss of his chairmanship might make him operate somewhat differently.

I reminded him that a lot of people in Germany thought that the way to stop Hitler was by electing rival capitalist politicians, and that as a matter of fact the German people did elect Hindenburg president while rejecting Hitler's candidacy in November 1932. But a couple of months later Hindenburg appointed Hitler chancellor, and the Nazi bloodbath began.

I also pointed out to him that a Senate chairmanship is not an indispensable position for a fascist would-be dictator. Neither Mussolini nor Hitler ever held any such position, and yet they became dictators. As an ordinary Senator, or even as a private citizen, McCarthy could still lead a fascist movement that would threaten whatever remains of democracy in this country.

I'm sorry to say that these arguments have not convinced my brother. He says he is going to vote for Charles Howell, the Democratic candidate for Senator in this state, even though Howell's attacks on McCarthy aren't as extreme as those of Clifford Case, the Republican candidate who says that he would vote to kick McCarthy out of his chairmanship. "Get the Republicans out of the majority at all costs," my brother says. For him that means elect Howell, and naturally he will not listen to talk about George Breitman, the Socialist Workers Party candidate.

Does anybody have any other and better arguments than the ones I gave him?

Frank M.
Bayonne, N. J.

On Treatment at Employment Office

Editor:

When I applied for unemployment compensation the other day, the interviewer treated me in a polite and friendly fashion. She didn't look at me as if I was dirt or as if I was trying to get something I'm not entitled to. It's not a big thing, but it was such a refreshing change from my previous experiences at the U.S.E.S. that I can't help commenting on it. After all, unemployed people are human too. And we do pay for our unemployed insurance.

D. L.
New York City

Liked Articles On Guatemala

Editor:

The articles on Guatemala have been full, but more than that, have been politically clear and precise. Congratulations to the staff.

B. B.
St. Paul, Minn.